

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010 - OBJECTIVES FOR THE NATION AND LEADING HEALTH INDICATORS

- Healthy People 2010 is the prevention agenda for the Nation. It has two overarching goals: to increase the quality and length of healthy life and to eliminate health disparities. Like Healthy People 2000, it is a statement of national health objectives designed to identify the most significant preventable threats to health and to establish national goals to reduce these threats.
- Healthy People 2010 features 467 science-based objectives, which are organized into 28 focus areas, and 10 Leading Health Indicators, which are a smaller set of objectives chosen to track progress toward meeting specific lifestyle-related *Healthy People 2010* goals. The Leading Health Indicators represent the important determinants of health for the full range of issues in the 28 focus areas and are intended to help people more easily understand the importance of health promotion and disease prevention and to encourage wide participation in improving health in the next decade.
- The Tennessee State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) was initiated using the *Healthy People 2010* objectives as a framework and will be used to guide health policy and resource allocation in future years. The developmental process for the SHIP was a unique and innovative approach to statewide needs assessment and planning. It used a community-based, grass-roots, bottom-up approach (the Community Diagnosis Initiative) coupled with a governmental data-sharing process (the Interdepartmental Work Group -- IWG) to create the basis for a plan that reflects the concerns and needs of Tennessee residents as well as the public agencies whose mission it is to identify and meet those needs. IWG members have assessed and documented their data holdings with respect to those Indicators; information gaps for the SHIP have been identified. The data worksheets documenting those data holdings have been turned into a searchable on-line database, currently accessible at <http://storm.ra.utk.edu/ship>. The SHIP process is described in a report by CHRG and TDH, 'Moving Toward Healthy People 2010 - Tennessee's Assessment Activities' available on the www.tennessee.gov/hitspot website under "Reports" and under "Tennessee State Health Improvement Plan" on the HIT Welcome Page.

In this section of the report, 2001 data that is available will be brought to bear to measure Tennessee's status relative to targets set for selected Healthy People 2010 Objectives from the 28 Focus areas. Next, available data on Leading Health Indicators will be presented as baseline for continued monitoring of the State's progress toward meeting these goals.